

## Letter from Eliza Symonds Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, February 7, 1877, with transcript

Copy of letter from Mrs. Eliza Grace Symonds Bell to her son, Alexander Graham Bell Tutelo Heights, Brantford, Ont., Can. February 7th, 77 (1876? GHG) (no envelope) My dear Aleck:

Your Father is at Hamilton today and in his absence I opened and read your letter of Feb. 3rd. I read it with the greatest astonishment and dread the effect it may have upon your Father when he comes home.

With regard to the V.S. business, I can say nothing more than that I am certain of his having sent a hundred dollars upon some bill that came to seventy dollars, and the thirty dollars over were to repay you some little sums we owed.

You could not possibly have understood his meaning about the other money. We had no suspicion of your affairs being in a "muddle" at all, but we knew from what you wrote that you had not funds at the present time, to defray all you had to upon patents and the other telegraphic expenses, and that you would have to borrow money. Your Father was glad to supply you, but, as we depend upon the interest, he would have to charge you with the interest. If you did this you could, he said, have as much as he could possibly spare, and need not return the principal to him, as it would eventually be your own. In like manner I had a portion of my Mother's property for years before she died, by paying her the interest she would have got elsewhere. He said this that you might be able to make profitable use of the money. He sent you the letter of credit for 200, being I believe all he had loose for a week or two, and at the same time a sketch of the different ways in which his interest comes in that you might choose. I thank Mabel very much for preventing your hasty reply.

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I hope you will show her this, her woman wit will no doubt put a different face upon the matter than the one you suppose. In the greatest haste and with love for both of you,

Your affectionate and grieved Mother, E. G. BELL